

IN THE FIELD

THE FIELD MUSEUM'S MEMBER PUBLICATION



Nature Unleashed: Inside Natural Disasters

NEW DNA DISCOVERY CENTER

EXPLORING THE DEEP SEA

SUMMER 2008
JUNE-AUGUST
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The Field Museum

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COVER, MAIN IMAGE:
The eruption of Mount St.
Helens on July 22, 1980.
© USGS PHOTO BY JIM VALANDRE

COVER, INSET, TOP:
In August of 2007 Hurricane
Dean pummeled the waterfront
boulevard in downtown
Kingston, Jamaica.
© ANDREW LEHMONTOWAR PHOTOS

COVER, INSET, BOTTOM:
Residents are rescued from
their rooftop after Hurricane
Katrina hit, causing flooding
in their New Orleans neighbor
hood, Aug. 29, 2005.
© ERIC GAY/AP PHOTO

The Field
Museum

1400 South Lake Shore Drive
Chicago, IL 60605-2496
312.922.9410
www.fieldmuseum.org

The Field Museum salutes
the people of Chicago for their
long-standing, generous support
of the Museum through the
Chicago Park District.

giving more!

Hello from the Museum's Membership Department!

We're always looking for ways to give our members **more**. This issue of *In the Field* contains helpful and informative articles so that you can take advantage of all we have to offer. For instance, if you plan to visit with young children, see page 13 where we present an itinerary of age appropriate exhibitions and activities. This is the first in a series of articles geared to help you plan your visits. So grab your magazine and your explorer's cap and hang out with us for a few hours.

Don't forget, as a member you now receive **more** free tickets for temporary special exhibitions such as *Nature Unleashed: Inside Natural Disasters*. Of course, you always get free general admission every time you visit the Museum. And, as a member you will stand out in the crowd with your new member sticker which you receive on each visit. The sticker identifies you as a proud supporter of the Museum and allows you to get members-only discounts at our restaurant and store locations.

But **more** importantly, we want to express our gratitude for your on-going support as a member of The Field Museum. We could not be a world class organization without our world class members! Thank you!



Michelle Clayton
Director of Membership



Museum Campus Neighbors

Shedd Aquarium Hurry to Shedd Aquarium for some last-chance visits. *Lizards and the Komodo King*, featuring Faust, an 8-foot, 150-pound Komodo dragon runs through Labor Day. Sept. 1 is also your last chance to see animals in the Shedd's Oceanarium which will close for renovation on Sept. 2 and reopen in summer of 2009. During the renovation, there are still plenty of things to see at the Shedd; for more information, visit www.sheddaquarium.org or call 312.939.2438.

Adler Planetarium Explore explosive space impacts in *Cosmic Collisions*, the Adler's new space show. Narrated by award-winning actor and director Robert Redford, *Cosmic Collisions* launches visitors on a thrilling trip through space and time. Scientific simulations and visualizations help you explore volatile collisions that drive the dynamic and continuing evolution of the Universe. For more information, visit www.adlerplanetarium.org or call 312.922.STAR.

MANY BUSES AND RAIL LINES PROVIDE ACCESS TO THE FIELD MUSEUM. FOR MORE INFORMATION, CALL 888.YOURCTA OR VISIT WWW.TRANSITCHICAGO.COM. VISIT WWW.RTACHICAGO.COM FOR REGIONAL TRANSIT INFORMATION.

New Amenities Just for Members

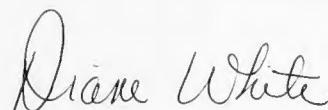
As a Field Museum member, you are aware of our wonderful exhibitions and programs. I want you also to know about some of the special amenities provided to members by my department, Public Services and Operations. We are always looking for ways to enhance the experience of your Museum visit and increase the value of your membership. To achieve that goal, we now provide:

Members' Lounge

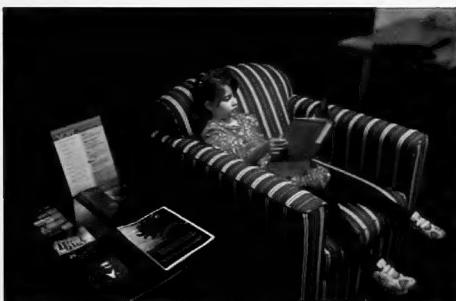
A new Members' Lounge located near the north entrance on the Museum's main level. The lounge is open from 10am until 2pm and provides comfortable seating so members can relax. In addition, there is an area for nursing mothers to care for their newborn or young children. The lounge is equipped with a telephone for members' use. Museum staff are also on hand in the lounge to assist members.

Free coat check is now offered to Field Museum members. Student, senior, individual, and national affiliate members may check up to two items; family members, up to five items; and family-plus members, up to six items. Please stop at the Membership desk first in order to receive your free coat check tickets for the day. Our friendly coat check staff is happy to serve you to make your visit more enjoyable.

These are just a few of the services and amenities we offer. Some of the employees who work in my area are people you see when you visit—including protection services officers, guest relations workers, and housekeeping staff. We are always available to answer questions and help you in any way we can. This is *your* Museum and we want you to feel at home. We appreciate your membership and strive to go above and beyond your expectations. Thank you for your patronage.



Diane White
Vice President,
Public Services and Operations



GN9117.170.JOHN WEINSTEIN

Dee Netzel and her daughter Sophie check out the new Members' Lounge.

Membership questions?

Call 312.665.7700 • M-F 8:30am–4:30pm



Nature Unleashed: Inside Natural Disasters

Opens May 23

By Mahreen Mehdi, Writer

Over billions of years, our planet has been shaped by dynamic forces that are still operating today. The Field Museum's new exhibition, *Nature Unleashed: Inside Natural Disasters* (May 23–Jan. 4, 2009) explores these natural forces through stunning displays, state-of-the-art animations, large-scale images, and cultural artifacts that reveal the dynamic relationship we have with the Earth.

Nature Unleashed focuses on four types of disasters: earthquakes, volcanoes, hurricanes, and tornadoes—and illustrates how much we know, and are still learning, about nature's terrifying power. Through vivid photographs, you will see the devastation, desperation, and exhaustion in the human struggle for survival as well as the resilient spirit of disaster area residents.

"The exhibition stresses that events such as earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, hurricanes and tornadoes are the normal results of the Earth's dynamic geological and meteorological forces," says Tom Skwarski, project manager for *Nature Unleashed*. "While natural disasters may be catastrophic for us, the choices we make, including how we cope and adapt, have an effect on how they impact our lives."

The exhibition is sponsored by Allstate. "Allstate is proud to serve as the National Tour Sponsor of The Field Museum's *Nature Unleashed: Inside Natural Disasters* exhibition," said Joan Walker, senior vice president of corporate relations and marketing. "*Nature Unleashed* will foster understanding of natural phenomena and our human responses to them so that we are all better protected today and prepared for tomorrow."



© NOAA

Above: The eye of Hurricane Katrina, August 29, 2005.

Top, left: A collapsed house crushed a car in the Marina District of San Francisco, one of the areas worst hit by an earthquake that rocked California on October 17, 1989 (left).

Top, right: Hawaiians have names for different types of lava. Pahoehoe lava has a smooth or ropy texture and spreads out when it erupts.

One-of-a-Kind Experience

In the exhibition, you will learn about the more than 100,000 earthquakes that occur across the globe each year through an interactive display that allows you to manipulate real-time earthquake data, such as location, time, magnitude, and depth. Three-dimensional displays and samples of different forms of lava will help you discover the different types of volcanoes and the processes that lead to eruptions. One of the highlights of *Nature Unleashed* is an engaging interactive display that lets you control levels of gas and silica in a volcano's magma to create your own virtual volcanic eruptions.

To show the power of tornadoes, thrilling audio and video footage provided by tornado chaser Tim Samaras are projected "in the round" giving you the opportunity to step into the path of an oncoming twister. See and hear an approaching tornado and stare in awe at the destruction it leaves behind!

After the Destruction

Nature Unleashed presents compelling displays of two of the most infamous hurricanes in American history: Galveston in 1900 and Katrina in 2005. The Galveston hurricane is the deadliest natural disaster in our nation's history; images and displays show the ways in which it taught us how to prepare for, and cope with, enormous storm systems.

Images, artifacts and first-hand audio accounts tell the stories of people directly affected by disasters. The exhibition includes everyday items that are now part of history such as a New Orleans newspaper forecasting Hurricane Katrina, a clarinet left behind in the storm's wrath, and a water-stained poster showing the high-water mark inside a home.

You can also see photos of the devastation and objects collected from one of the worst tornadoes in modern history which occurred in Greensburg, Kansas in 2007. Artifacts include a tree stump completely stripped of its bark and impaled by a piece of metal, revealing the power and strength of the tornado.

The exhibition concludes on a hopeful note. Present-day images of places where disasters occurred show that we are not completely powerless. By making the right choices we might not only survive, but thrive. **ITF**

Nature Unleashed: Inside Natural Disasters is organized by The Field Museum.

National Tour Sponsor: Allstate

An F4 category tornado bears down on storm chaser, Tim Samaras in New Manchester, South Dakota.



© CARSTEN PETER/NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC IMAGE COLLECTION



From Tom Skwarski, the Exhibition's Project Manager

"*Nature Unleashed: Inside Natural Disasters* is a blend of cutting edge science and history. The exhibition will allow you to witness what it's like to stand inside a roaring tornado; trigger an underwater earthquake and simulate a tsunami; create a virtual volcano; and touch and examine real rock and lava specimens that tell of past geologic events."

Skwarski lists these interesting facts and exhibition highlights:

TORNADOES

- **Inside information:** The wind speed of an EF-5 tornado can reach almost half the speed of sound.
- **Be sure not to miss:** Go inside an in-the-round projection of the first-ever video showing the awesome power of a tornado as it approaches and passes over you.

HURRICANES

- **Inside information:** The word "hurricane" comes from Huracan, the god of big winds and evil spirits once worshiped by the Maya people of Central America.
- **Be sure not to miss:** Hear compelling first-hand accounts of survivors of Hurricane Katrina as they describe their experiences.

VOLCANOES

- **Inside information:** The largest volcanic eruptions release massive amounts of gas and ash into the atmosphere which can produce vivid red sunsets. The red skies in Edvard Munch's famous 1893 painting *The Scream* are now thought to accurately reflect the eerie twilights seen in Norway for months after Krakatoa's 1883 eruption almost 7,000 miles away.
- **Be sure not to miss:** Create and erupt your own volcano in an animated interactive that allows you to set the levels of gas and silica in the lava.

EARTHQUAKES

- **Inside information:** The Indian Ocean earthquake of 2004 (9.3 on the Richter Scale) released 23,000 times the amount of energy of the bomb dropped on Hiroshima and triggered a devastating tsunami.
- **Be sure not to miss:** See an animation of the waves of that tsunami that traveled around the entire globe.

Embarking on New Adventures in the Deep Sea

A Conversation with Janet Voight

By Jill Lyons, Writer

Janet Voight, PhD, associate curator of invertebrates in The Field Museum's Department of Zoology, studies the life and behavior of animals in the Pacific Ocean, where she has made more than 25 deep sea dives throughout her career. In the following interview, she discusses her research.



DIANE ALEXANDER WHITE

Dr. Janet Voight studies marine animals.



ITF: *What is so interesting about deep sea exploration?*

Dr. Voight: The ocean is a vast, largely unknown domain, and only 150 years ago animal life was thought not to exist in the deep ocean. Even today, with modern resources and better technology, we are limited in our ability to study deep-sea animal life. The research submersibles, like *Alvin*, that are in regular use can only dive to a fraction of the greatest ocean depth. We can lower cameras from a surface ship, but they can only tell us so much. Oddly enough, we know more about the moon and Mars than we do about our oceans.

ITF: *What is it like inside Alvin, the underwater exploration vessel?*

Dr. Voight: The diving sphere of *Alvin* is only seven feet in diameter, just enough room for the pilot, two researchers and the equipment—it's impossible to work in it if you're afraid of enclosed spaces. *Alvin* is a metal ball without insulation. Deep within the ocean where it is 36 degrees Fahrenheit, spending the day in *Alvin* is like breathing inside a refrigerator for six to eight hours. The cold seeps in and the moisture from your breath trickles down the wall and the seats get soggy. It makes for a very unpleasant ride!

ITF: *But a rewarding trip in the end?*

Dr. Voight: Of course! On a recent expedition I recovered six new species of wood-boring clams. My team and I had placed blocks of solid wood on the ocean floor. When we retrieved them two years later, we found only one species of clam in populations so dense that the wood was nearly destroyed, but members of the five other species lived together at lower densities. I think the critical difference was that where the destructive species was present, flatworms were absent; where the other species of boring clams occurred, flatworms (including two new species, a new genus and a new family) were present in abundance. The flatworms eat young clams. Without flatworms to control their population, the destructive species went out of control and destroyed the wood.

Opposite page: Extinct hydrothermal chimneys are covered with serpulid polychaete worms and scattered galatheid crabs at Parigou Vent near 13° N on the East Pacific Rise (about 8,600 feet deep). Giant tube worms nestle between the chimneys; Alvin's video camera is visible in lower right (top, left). The underwater exploration vessel, Alvin (top, right).

ITF: How did you get started in your career?

Dr. Voight: I guess you can say I was born to be a biologist. I liked science and math in school, and thoroughly enjoyed being challenged in my classes. As an undergraduate I managed to get an opportunity to pursue research and I found out that I loved it. Discovering something that no one else in the world has ever known before is exhilarating.

ITF: Why should the average person care about the work you are doing?

Dr. Voight: To put it simply: it's our planet. With the information scientists retrieve from the ocean, we are able to achieve a better understanding of life's diversity, adaptability, and processes. Deep ocean water originates from Antarctic ice shelves, sinking to circulate through the Pacific and Atlantic Oceans. Any shifts in this flow of water may not only affect weather but animal life may be altered as well.

ITF: What advice would you give to children who hope to pursue a path similar to yours?

Dr. Voight: Make the most of your education and find the strength to stay motivated. There will be missteps along the way and moments where plans are interrupted due to uncontrollable factors. For example, in 1999 I received a grant for an exploration of hydrothermal vents in the North Pacific, but my plans were cancelled due to a fire on the ship that sent it to the shipyard for weeks. The next year, conditions again meant the ship would not be where I needed to go, but I was offered the chance to explore the hydrothermal vents on the East Pacific Rise instead. Although this was not my original plan, I jumped at the opportunity. So I would advise students not to become discouraged especially when a new prospect might be just around the corner. **ITF**



COURTESY OF JARET VOIGHT



COURTESY OF JARET VOIGHT

'Spending the day in Alvin is like breathing inside a refrigerator for six to eight hours.'

Dr. Voight Discusses Exploring the Arctic Seafloor: Photographs by Chris Linder

NOW ON EXHIBIT AT THE FIELD MUSEUM

ITF: Exploring the Arctic Seafloor is on view through July 6. What was your role in this exhibition?

Dr. Voight: I was a content specialist, meaning I provided the scientific insight to assure we were clearly communicating the exhibition's message to our visitors.



CHRIS LINDER

ITF: Does it relate to the work you do?

Dr. Voight: This exhibition highlights the international research cruise to the high Arctic and focuses on the engineering required to maneuver a deep sea robot around and under ice.

The work I do requires excellence in engineering. Without the tools that have been and are being developed, scientists would not learn about our world.

ITF: What do you hope the visitors will come away with when they see the exhibition?

Dr. Voight: I would like them to come away with a sense of wonder about the ocean and realize how hard it can be for scientists just to get to where they can be close to what they came to study; and realize that even when only the water separates you from your goal, it can still be too far.

This exhibition was created by Chris Linder of the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution, with the collaborative assistance of The Field Museum.

Funding provided by the National Science Foundation and the Richard King Mellon Foundation.

Field Museum Members Get Big Discount at the Harris Educational Loan Library

By Krystal Villanosa, Writer



DAVID RIGG



DAVID RIGG

Harris Loan materials make learning fun.

If you are looking for fun, hands-on educational activities to do with your children, along with ways to reinforce what they are learning at school, the Harris Educational Loan Library is the perfect resource for you. The Harris Loan Library lets you borrow cultural artifacts and biological specimens from our vast collections and take them into your home.

Harris Loan materials include exhibition case dioramas that show plants and animals such as water lilies, coconuts, sharks, bats, and birds in their natural settings; each exhibition case comes complete with basic information on the featured plant or animal. You can also check out experience boxes that contain real artifacts such as African beads, dried gourds, and hunting spears. Experience boxes often come with books, posters, videos, and lesson plans with ready-to-use activities.

Also available at Harris Loan are children's books and audiovisual materials such as film strips, CDs, and DVDs. Popular topics include: *Animal Tracks*, *Egyptian Hieroglyphs*, *Dinosaurs*, *Volcanoes*, and *World Percussion Instruments*. Choose from more than 1,200 amazing experiences!

To register to check out materials, stop by the Harris Loan Library while you're in the Museum or visit www.fieldmuseum.org/harrisloan. Registered borrowers pay an annual fee—and **Field Museum members receive a 50 percent discount, paying only \$30 per year for unlimited access to all the Harris Loan Library has to offer!** You can borrow materials for up to three weeks. For convenient pick up or drop off, free parking is available in the Museum's west parking lot (located west of the Museum's south entrance; enter from McFetridge Dr.) **ITF**

Two New Harris Educational Loan Library Locations

Field Museum members who live in the suburbs can now check out materials from two new Harris Loan Library locations:

Limestone Township Library

2701 W. Tower Road
Kankakee, IL 60901
Phone: 815.939.1696

Friends of Ryerson Woods

21950 N. Riverwoods Road
Deerfield, IL 60015
Phone: 847.968.3343

These two locations operate just like the Harris Educational Loan Library in The Field Museum. For a complete listing of Harris Loan materials, visit www.fieldmuseum.org/harrisloan

Time to renew your membership?

Call 312.665.7700 • M-F 8:30am–4:30pm

JUNE-AUGUST

The Field
Museum

program calendar

SUMMER 2008



Crown Family PlayLab

Explore the Crown Family PlayLab this summer and watch your little explorer dig up dinosaur bones, grind corn in a pueblo, and put on an animal costume and crawl, hop, or fly! See a young adventurer's delight in making music, playing scientist, or stomping on dinosaur footprints!



Below are some of the programs you can sign up for at the Crown Family PlayLab but make sure you look inside to see them all!

IN THE SPOTLIGHT: MUD PIES!

Sometimes the best way to learn is to get messy! Come dig into the rich soil beneath your feet and see what you and your family can find. A whole world of amazing creatures awaits you! Along the way learn how soil helps all of us in our daily lives. Be sure to dress for good clean messy fun!

For families with children ages 2–4.

JUNE 14, 10am–11am • \$5, \$3 members

AT THE ART STUDIO*

Calling all young artists! Explore the world of dragons, mermaids, and giants and find out how these fantastic creatures found their way into some of our favorite stories. Come express your thoughts and feelings on this subject through a variety of open-ended art materials.

DAILY IN JUNE, 9am–3pm

MORNING STORIES*

Take a seat and enjoy a story before you set off on an exploration of the Museum. Morning Stories are designed for families who would like to begin their day of exploration with a story.

EVERY MONDAY, WEDNESDAY, & FRIDAY, 9:30am

The Crown Family PlayLab is generously sponsored by the Crown family.

***FREE WITH MUSEUM ADMISSION**

PROGRAM TICKETS & INFO > 312.665.7400 GENERAL MUSEUM INFO > 312.922.9410 VISIT > www.fieldmuseum.org

Please note: Refunds will be issued by Field Museum staff, minus a \$10 processing fee, for group and family overnights only. Cancellations must be made 24 hours in advance of the overnight in order to receive a refund. No refunds or exchanges are permitted for any other programs. Fees for programs that are cancelled by The Field Museum will be refunded in full.

june

USDA SCIENTIST AT THE FIELD* Demonstration

Visit Underground Adventure and get a chance to see and feel different types of soil!

JUNE 12, 11am–2pm

Free with admission to Underground Adventure

IN THE SPOTLIGHT: MUD PIES! Family Program

Sometimes the best way to learn is to get messy!

Come dig into the rich soil beneath your feet and see what you and your family can find. A whole world of amazing creatures awaits you! Along the way learn how soil helps all of us in our daily lives. Be sure to dress for good, clean, messy fun! For families with children ages 2–4.

JUNE 14, 10am–11am • \$5, \$3 members

ARTISTS AT THE FIELD* Demonstration

Bring your pencils and your brushes and get tips from professional artists throughout the Museum as they study, weave, draw, paint and sculpt.

JUNE 14, 11am–2pm

A BRITISH APPROACH TO ANTIQUITIES

AND BURIED TREASURE* Lecture

Join us for a presentation on the unique approach to archaeology that England and Wales employ in the understanding of artifacts and what lessons they may offer for other countries.

JUNE 14, 1pm

ARTISTS AND AUTHORS PRESENT

DEBORAH RUDDELL* Family Program

Do you like to rhyme words? So does Deborah Ruddell author of *Today at the Bluebird Café: A Branchful of Birds*. Come join Deborah Ruddell and some of her fine-feathered friends for an afternoon of poetry.

JUNE 14, 1:30pm–3pm

FAMILY FIELD DAY* Family Program

Take part in fun and free art and science activities in the Crown Family PlayLab and in the rest of the Museum. Be a detective, scientist, musician, and much more! Third Saturday of every month.

JUNE 21, 11am–2pm

SCIENTIST AT THE FIELD* Demonstration

Meet a Field Museum scientist and see rarely displayed specimens from our collections! Ask questions about what's on display and get inside knowledge on our artifacts and specimens!

JUNE 21, 11am–2pm

july

AT THE ART STUDIO* Family Program

Calling all young artists! Have you ever picked up a rock or fossil and looked at its shape, size and color? Each one is full of clues of where it came and how it has changed through the years. Come express your thoughts and feelings on this subject through a variety of open-ended art materials.

DAILY IN JULY, 9am–3pm

USDA SCIENTIST AT THE FIELD* Demonstration

Visit Underground Adventure and get a chance to see and feel different types of soil!

THURSDAYS, 11am–2pm

Free with admission to Underground Adventure

SUMMER WORLDS TOUR 2008

at The Field Museum, The Adler Planetarium, and The Shedd Aquarium Summer Camp

Track the origins of legendary creatures including dragons, unicorns, and mermaids at The Field Museum, explore outer space, and uncover the creatures of the deep blue ocean. Four one-week sessions available for children ages 5–10.

JULY 7–AUGUST 1, 9am–3pm • \$250, \$230 members

Register online at www.adlerplanetarium.org/summerworldstour

ARTISTS AT THE FIELD* Demonstration

Bring your pencils and your brushes and get tips from professional artists throughout the Museum as they study, weave, draw, paint and sculpt.

JULY 12, 11am–2pm

SCIENTIST AT THE FIELD* Demonstration

Meet a Field Museum scientist and see rarely displayed specimens from our collections! Ask questions about what's on display and get inside knowledge on our artifacts and specimens!

JULY 19, 11am–2pm

FAMILY FIELD DAY* Family Program

Take part in fun and free art and science activities in the Crown Family PlayLab and in the rest of the Museum. Be a detective, scientist, musician, and much more! Third Saturday of every month.

JULY 19, 11am–2pm

AT THE ART STUDIO* Family Program

Calling all young artists! What makes a dinosaur a dinosaur? There are many creatures, real and pretend, that look kind of like dinosaurs, but how can people tell what's a dinosaur and what's not? Come express your thoughts and feelings on this subject through a variety of open-ended art materials.

DAILY IN AUGUST, 9am–3pm

USDA SCIENTIST AT THE FIELD* Demonstration

Visit Underground Adventure and get a chance to see and feel different types of soil!

THURSDAYS, 11am–2pm

Free with admission to Underground Adventure

ARTISTS AT THE FIELD* Demonstration

Bring your pencils and your brushes and get tips from professional artists throughout the Museum as they study, weave, draw, paint and sculpt.

AUGUST 9, 11am–2pm

SCIENTIST AT THE FIELD* Demonstration

Meet a Field Museum scientist and see rarely displayed specimens from our collections! Ask questions about what's on display and get inside knowledge on our artifacts and specimens!

AUGUST 16, 11am–2pm

FAMILY FIELD DAY* Family Program

Take part in fun and free art and science activities in the Crown Family PlayLab and in the rest of the Museum. Be a detective, scientists, musician, and much more!

Third Saturday of every month.

AUGUST 16, 11am–2pm

FOSSIL HUNT AT MAZON CREEK Family Field Trip

Do you like to hunt fossils? Come with us to the world-famous Mazon Creek site, and discover what Illinois was like more than 300 million years ago! Plan on a one-quarter mile walk to fossil locations. For families with children ages 8–17.

AUGUST 23, 8am–3pm • \$40, \$28 members

Pre-registration required.

CROWN FAMILY PLAYLAB Ongoing!

Little explorers have their own place in a big museum!

The Crown Family PlayLab is generously sponsored by the Crown family.

GEORGE WASHINGTON CARVER

THROUGH JULY 6

Discover George Washington Carver, scientist and humanitarian, whose groundbreaking work creating products from plants continues to influence scientists-and our own lives-today.

This exhibition was created by The Field Museum in collaboration with Tuskegee University and the National Park Service.

Lead Sponsor: Motorola Foundation

Major Sponsor: Sara Lee Foundation

CELEBRATING WOMEN

THROUGH SEPTEMBER 7

Vivid color photographs from around the world portray festivals that celebrate women as fighters for freedom, bearers of light, or simply young and carefree girls.

This exhibition was created and organized by Paola Gianturco.

Sponsored by: Baker & McKenzie

MYTHIC CREATURES: DRAGONS, UNICORNS AND MERMAIDS

THROUGH SEPTEMBER 1

Trace the cultural and natural history roots of some of the world's most enduring mythological beasts of land, sea, and air, such as dragons, griffins, mermaids, sea serpents, and unicorns.

This exhibition is organized by the American Museum of Natural History, New York, in collaboration with The Field Museum, Chicago; Canadian Museum of Civilization, Gatineau-Ottawa; Australian National Maritime Museum, Sydney; and Fernbank Museum of Natural History, Atlanta

Lead Sponsor: MetLife Foundation

DANIEL F. AND ADA L. RICE DNA DISCOVERY CENTER New!

PERMANENT EXHIBITION

Discover what DNA is, how it works and what it can tell us about ourselves and other living things.

This exhibition is generously supported by the Daniel F. and Ada L. Rice Foundation.

We gratefully acknowledge The Pritzker Foundation's generous support of the Pritzker Laboratory for Molecular Systematics and Evolution. We express our appreciation to Misty and Lewis Gruber for establishing an endowment in support of research in the Pritzker Laboratory.

NATURE UNLEASHED: INSIDE NATURAL DISASTERS

THROUGH JANUARY 4, 2009

Earthquakes. Tornadoes. Hurricanes. Volcanic eruptions.

Tsunamis. Explore these immense forces of geology and weather that have shaped our planet and our world.

This exhibition is organized by The Field Museum.

National Tour Sponsor: Allstate

PURCHASE YOUR TICKETS ONLINE
www.fieldmuseum.org

don't miss these special programs!



A BRITISH APPROACH TO ANTIQUITIES AND BURIED TREASURE* Lecture

Join us for a presentation by Dr. Roger Bland, Head of the Department of Treasure and Portable Antiquities at the British Museum, on the unique approach to

archaeology that England and Wales employ in the understanding of artifacts and what lessons they may offer for other countries.

JUNE 14, 1pm

ARTISTS AND AUTHORS PRESENT

DEBORAH RUDDELL* Family Program

Do you like to rhyme words? So does Deborah Ruddell author of *Today at the Bluebird Café: A Branchful of Birds*. Come join Deborah Ruddell and some of her fine-feathered friends for an afternoon of poetry.

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AUGUST 23, 8am–3pm • \$40, \$28 members

Pre-registration required.



visitor information



GETTING HERE: Field Museum visitors can park in Soldier Field's parking garage. Visit www.fieldmuseum.org for information on parking lots/rates, and public transit.

HOURS: 9am–5pm daily. Last admission at 4pm. Hours are subject to change.

ADMISSION AND TICKETS: Member passes can be reserved through the membership department (312.665.7705) or picked up at the membership services desk. For non-members, The Field Museum's gold pass, which includes general admission plus one special exhibition, ranges in price from \$11 to \$22, depending on your age and whether you are a Chicago resident. Please bring your ID to receive the appropriate ticket price. Tickets are available at the Museum's admission desks, or in advance via www.fieldmuseum.org or 866.FIELD.03. For admission and ticket details, visit www.fieldmuseum.org.

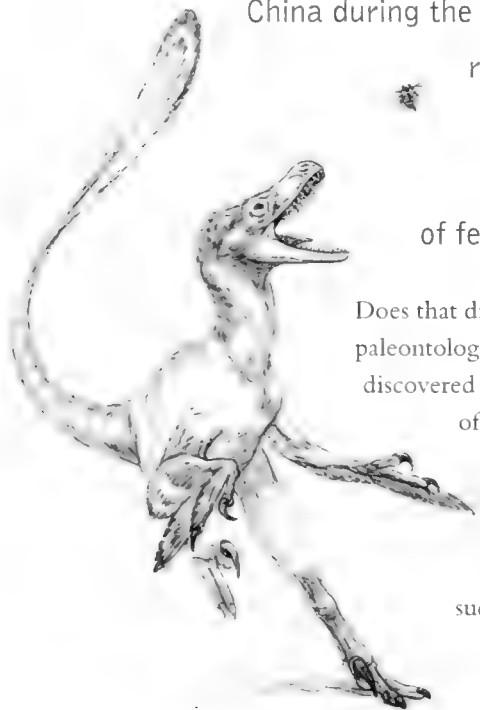
ACCESSIBILITY: Visitors using wheelchairs or strollers may be dropped off at the new East entrance or at the West entrance. Call 312.665.7400 to check on the accessibility of programs that take place outside of the Museum.

INFORMATION: 312.922.9410 or www.fieldmuseum.org



Raptors of a Feather Flock Together

Velociraptor—those vicious creatures that chased people in the *Jurassic Park* movies—belong to a group of sickle-clawed dinosaurs called deinonychosaurs. Over the last decade, many small deinonychosaurs have been discovered in rocks that formed at the bottom of lakes in northeast



China during the Cretaceous period (145–65 million years ago). These fine-grained rocks are unusual because they preserve traces of skin of animals that died there. Researchers have found that small carnivorous dinosaurs from this area turn out to be covered by a plumage of feathers just like their living relatives: birds.

Does that discovery mean that *Velociraptor* also had feathers? Recently, a team of Field Museum paleontologists including Peter Makovicky of the Field Museum examined a *Velociraptor* specimen discovered in Mongolia in 1998 and found a row of six tiny bumps running down the back edge of the ulna (funny bone) below the elbow. In living birds these bumps, or quill knobs, mark where ligaments anchor wing feathers to the forearm. So scientists believe that *Velociraptor* also sported feathers on its forearm, and likely over most of its body, just like its Chinese relatives. While *Velociraptor* was not built to fly, it inherited its plumage from a common ancestor shared with birds and may have used its feathers for such purposes as shielding its eggs during brooding or to help it run up steep inclines.

Scientists are not certain if *Velociraptor* hunted in packs as popular books and movies suggest, but some newly discovered dinosaur footprints in China show that sickle-clawed dinosaurs did flock together, at least sometimes. An as-yet undiscovered deinonychosaur species, more than twice as large as *Velociraptor*, left tracks at a site in China 100–125 million years ago. The unusual prints bear traces of only two toes, revealing that these animals held their sickle claws off the ground while walking.

Perhaps more remarkable is that six of these trackways run parallel to each other on a single rock surface with less than one stride-length separating adjacent trackways—undisputable evidence that a tightly grouped flock moved together in one direction. As the fossil record continues to yield more insights on *Velociraptor* and its kin, researchers are piecing together an evermore accurate picture of their fascinating biology. **ITF**

Peter Makovicky, PhD (pictured below), curator of dinosaurs at The Field Museum, contributed this Scientist's Pick. Last year he co-authored a research paper on *Velociraptor*'s feather quill knobs.



Above: An artistic reconstruction of what *Velociraptor* plumage may have looked like.

Below: An 11-inch deinonychosaur left footprint from Shandong, China.

Only a small, spherical impression of the second toe is seen; the rest of the toe sporting the large sickle claw was held off the ground during locomotion.

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THE FIELD MUSEUM
EXPLORATION EXPEDITIONS



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DR. MAKOVICKY AND COLLEAGUES ALSO AUTHORED A PAPER ABOUT DINOSAUR TRACKWAYS. GO TO THE MUSEUM'S WEBSITE AT WWW.FIELDMUSEUM.ORG/EXPEDITIONS TO LEARN MORE ABOUT HIS WORK THROUGH PHOTOS, VIDEOS, AND INTERACTIVE MAPS.

Emergency Field Guides for the Tropics

By Robin Foster, Conservation Ecologist, Environmental and Conservation Programs

A new program is under way at The Field Museum to put basic and inexpensive tropical field guides on the Internet. These “emergency” field guides are part of a larger effort to provide identification tools for super-diverse and increasingly threatened tropical flora and fauna.



DANIEL MELLER



DANIEL MELLER

The field guides can be used by scientists, conservation professionals, and students.



Almost invariably, people don't care about what they don't know about. Tropical forests are an extreme example, having so many species that an outsider often sees just a green wall, a messy obstacle to be removed rather than appreciated. The tropics are in double jeopardy because high biodiversity is coupled with an extreme scarcity of information for people who live, work, and study there.

Most scientific information about tropical plants and animals is either unavailable in a particular country or written in another language. The information also can be expensive, too technical for the public and beginning students and/or lacking illustrations.

The digital revolution and the Internet have created an enormous opportunity to change that in a hurry. The Field Museum's Environmental and Conservation Programs (ECP) produces Rapid Color Guides as easily accessible conservation tools. Using quality color photos, these guides can be seen and downloaded for free anywhere in the world. They are designed so that they can be printed and taken into the field or seen on a laptop screen and compared with digital images. Even better, they can be corrected, updated, and improved with little difficulty.

Initially ECP scientists focused on the area they know best: the American tropics. Currently there are more than 200 guides available. As popularity of the guides has grown (323,000 downloads since 2005) they now range from Veracruz to Patagonia, from the coast of Brazil to mountains of China. They cover subjects from orchids to trees, and scorpions to hummingbirds. This is just the beginning, as the guide program looks forward to continuing to include more organisms and more areas (especially from tropical Africa and Asia).

Scientists, conservation professionals, and students find the guides' pictures to be an excellent shortcut to learning about organisms in the huge areas of the tropics that have no illustrated guides of any kind. In time, the color guides can be supplemented by guides that will provide in-depth information and more definitive identification. Right now, they are an emergency solution to a vast problem. **ITF**

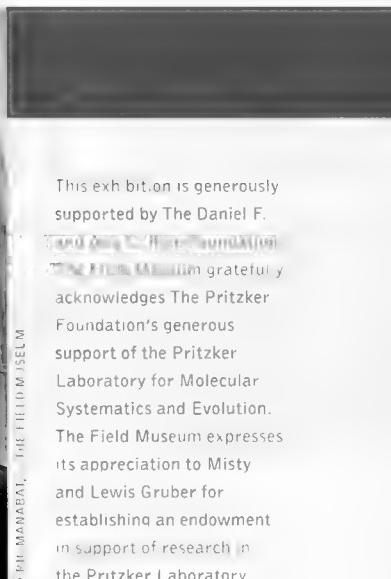
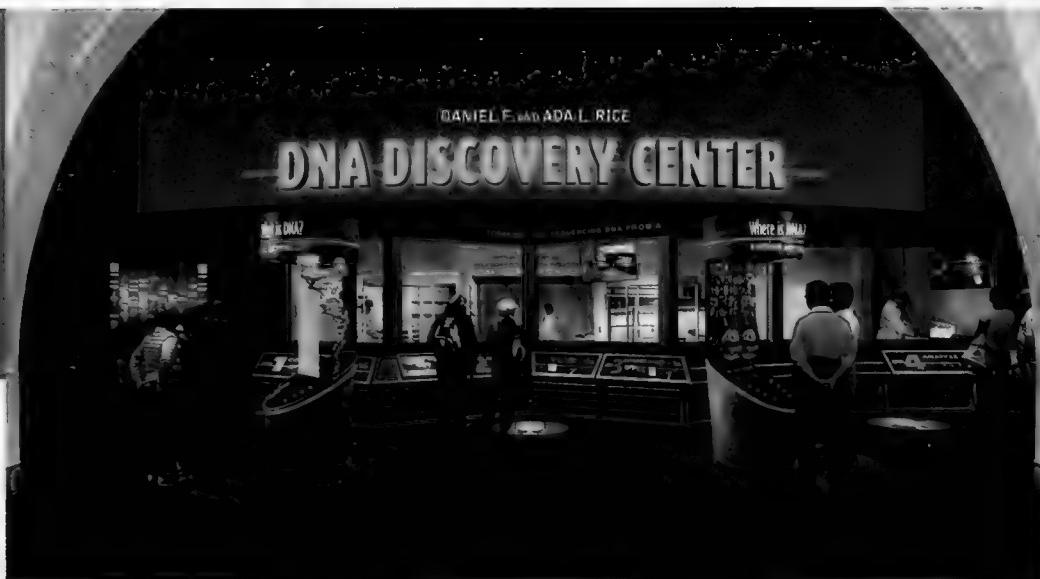
The Rapid Color Guides program was supported initially by the Andrew Mellon Foundation, in part by The Gordon & Betty Moore Foundation, and now by the Ellen Hyndman fund.

INTERESTED IN CHECKING OUT THE RAPID COLOR GUIDES? HERE ARE THE LINKS ON THE FIELD MUSEUM'S WEBSITE: WWW.FIELDMUSEUM.ORG/PLANTGUIDES AND WWW.FIELDMUSEUM.ORG/ANIMALGUIDES

DNA Discovery Center Shows Real Working Laboratory

By Greg Borzo, Media Manager, Scientific Affairs

DNA is the thread that connects all life on Earth, but few people understand what it is, how it works, and what it tells us. A newly opened, permanent Field Museum exhibition is answering those questions.



The Daniel F. and Ada L. Rice *DNA Discovery Center* is a working state-of-the-art laboratory where Museum visitors can observe researchers extracting, sequencing, and analyzing DNA. It is the first molecular systematics facility in the country open to public viewing. In addition, from 11am to noon every day, visitors can speak one-on-one with an educator/researcher about the important work being performed in the lab.

'The exhibition includes videos, hands-on interactives, and informative displays.'

The *DNA Discovery Center* puts a public face on the Museum's Pritzker Laboratory for Molecular Systematics and Evolution, which was established in 1974 for genetic research and to study and help preserve the world's biodiversity. "In the *DNA Discovery Center*, the public can learn about the location and structure of DNA, that every plant and animal has DNA, and how Field Museum scientists use DNA in their research," said Kevin Feldheim, PhD, manager of the Pritzker Laboratory and co-curator of the new exhibition.

In addition to the public viewing area, the 1,850-square-foot exhibition includes videos, hands-on interactives, and informative displays. William Petersen, star of the popular television program *CSI: Crime Scene Investigation*, narrates a video about the basics of genetics. A touch-screen kiosk also gets visitors involved. Visitors can point to locations on a globe and learn about active Field Museum research projects taking place around the world. This display can be updated with new findings daily to keep the public in the know all the time.

Shannon Hackett, PhD, associate curator of birds at The Field Museum and co-curator of the *DNA Discovery Center* has helped hand-pick several Chicago-area students for a DNA Residency program this summer. The teenagers will assist scientists and conduct research that will be used in long-term DNA studies.

The *DNA Discovery Center* is located on The Field Museum's upper floor overlooking Stanley Field Hall. **ITF**



Explore a World of Women's Celebrations

By Emily Waldren, Public Relations Coordinator

"In a world where, in so many places, women are not valued... here are festivals where men, children, and women celebrate women!" – Paola Gianturco



THE MARAE GALLERY

Celebrating Women is presented in the Marae Gallery. One of the Museum's more intimate exhibition spaces, the small gallery is located near the Maori Meeting House on the Museum's upper level; a "marae" (pronounced MAH-rye) is the New Zealand Maori term for the area surrounding a meeting house and is a place where communities come together. Alaka Wali, the Museum's Curator of Anthropology and director of the Center for Cultural Understanding and Change, explains, "The goal of the Marae Gallery is to showcase intimate portraits of communities so that visitors may gain a deeper understanding of cultural diversity."

The exhibitions in the Marae Gallery are sponsored through 2010 by Baker & McKenzie LLP. "Diversity and multiculturalism have been cornerstones of Baker & McKenzie since its formation. We share in The Field Museum's vision of building our communities through educational and cultural pursuits," says Phil Suse, Managing Partner of Baker & McKenzie in Chicago.

Journey to far corners of the world and discover rituals that highlight the power of women. The exhibition *Celebrating Women* (through Sept. 7) features over 40 color photographs by renowned photographer Paola Gianturco. The images document six festivals:

- **Kali Puja** (India) praises the warrior goddess Kali for battling evil. Flower markets see their sales soar as people buy blossoms for offerings at ephemeral temples built especially for the goddess Kali.
- **Umhlanga** (Swaziland) celebrates virginity as girls set out on an overnight pilgrimage to cut river reeds, build a windbreak with them around the Queen Mother's residence, and then dance for two days straight. Today, the festival also promotes HIV/AIDS awareness.
- **Noc Świętojańska** (Poland) is held during the summer solstice when, according to ancient legend, herbs possess special powers. Young women gather at rivers to float wreaths of herbs and wildflowers to attract friendship and love.
- **Festa de Nossa Senhora Da Boa Morte** (Brazil) carries on traditions begun by the highly respected freed slave women who were leaders in Candomblé, an Afro-Brazilian religion that melds Yoruba beliefs and Catholic rites. Today, the Sisters of the *Boa Morte* ("Good Death") fight for racial equality and celebrate both the Virgin Mary and former slaves who died free.
- **Sankta Lucia** (Sweden) is a winter solstice festival day when girls wear crowns of lighted candles and serve their parents breakfast in bed. Some say the tradition derives from the Sicilian St. Lucia, who wore candles on her head while carrying food to Christians hiding in caves.
- During the **Moussem of Imilchil** (Morocco) women who are divorced or widowed stroll through a temporary tent city to scout potential husbands. The women may propose afternoon tea to men they meet, and immediately thereafter, can propose marriage. **ITF**

Sponsored by: Baker & McKenzie

**CELEBRATING WOMEN, A BOOK OF PHOTOGRAPHS BY PAOLA GIANTURCO,
IS AVAILABLE IN THE MUSEUM STORE.**



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A Plan for Visiting the Museum with Young Children

By Michelle Clayton, Director of Membership

It happens every day—a family arrives at the Museum, steps inside Stanley Field Hall and pauses for a moment to take in the size and beauty of the space. Then they turn to each other and say, “OK, what should we see?” Without a plan, The Field Museum can seem overwhelming and intimidating—even for members who visit often.

Here, we give a guide to seeing the Museum with young children. (Future issues of *In the Field* will feature guides for adult visits and exhibitions to see with older children and teenagers.) For a half-day visit with youngsters, we suggest:



© FIELD MUSEUM

The Crown Family PlayLab is a great place to introduce children ages 2–6 to the wonders of the natural world. Kids can pretend to be a woodland animal, create artwork and music, discover how dinosaurs lived, and play in an Indian pueblo. Although you could spend the day here, if you plan to see other areas, allow about an hour to explore this family-friendly space. (The hour of 9–10am is reserved for Field Museum members only! *The Crown Family PlayLab* closes at 3pm.)

Underground Adventure is a fantastic journey to the world beneath our feet where tree roots and soil critters appear 100 times life size! Plan to spend about 40 minutes learning about the eco-systems of our own backyards. This ticketed exhibition is free to Museum members.



© FIELD MUSEUM

The Crown Family PlayLab is a great place for children to explore and learn.

THIS IS JUST A SAMPLE ITINERARY AND, OF COURSE, THERE ARE LOTS OF OTHER EXHIBITIONS TO EXPLORE. YOU CAN ALSO GO TO OUR WEBSITE WWW.FIELDMUSEUM.ORG TO HELP PLAN YOUR VISIT. WE HOPE TO SEE YOU SOON!



No visit to The Field Museum is complete without a look at **Sue**, the world’s largest and most complete *T. rex*. A group photo with Sue towering overhead is a must! Plan to spend about 10 minutes seeing Sue in Stanley Field Hall and another 10 minutes examining her real skull on the upper-level mezzanine.

In **What is an Animal?** kids will be fascinated by the colorful, hands-on displays. Learn about animal sizes, shapes, colors and where and how animals live. Plan to spend about 30 minutes in this popular exhibition.

The Museum’s west wing is a place to discover more animals. In **Nature Walk**, follow a trail through woodlands, wetlands, prairies, and ocean shores to find a variety of wildlife. Then continue through other halls where animals of Asia and Africa are shown in beautiful, life-like dioramas. Budget about an hour to see these exhibitions.

Explore another culture with a visit to the **Pawnee Earth Lodge**. Kids can pretend to grind corn, pull a sled made of buffalo ribs, and handle Pawnee tools and weapons. Plan to spend about 30 minutes experiencing how Pawnee families lived on the Great Plains. **ITF**

Museum's Library: A Gem Among Our Collections

By Christine Giannoni, Reference and Circulation Librarian and Nina Cummings, Photo Archivist

The Marie Louise Rosenthal Library, located on the Museum's third floor, is a hidden gem among The Field Museum's vast collections.



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Above, top: Animal specimens on exhibition at The Field Columbian Museum in 1894, shortly after its official opening.

Above, bottom: "Art Palace at Night" a color plate by Charles S. Graham from The World's Fair in Water Colors.

WHILE THE LIBRARY'S COLLECTIONS ARE PRIMARILY FOR USE AMONG MUSEUM STAFF AND VISITING RESEARCHERS FROM AROUND THE WORLD, MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ARE FREE TO VISIT THE LIBRARY AS WELL. MUSEUM MEMBERS, TEACHERS, AND UNIVERSITY STUDENTS OFTEN USE THE LIBRARY COLLECTIONS FOR THEIR ADVANCED RESEARCH.

Since its organization in 1894, the Library has grown to include over 275,000 volumes of books and journals in the fields of anthropology, botany, geology, paleontology and zoology, with emphasis on biological systematics, evolutionary biology, ethnology, and material culture.

Among the Library's Special Collections are two very important archives: the Institutional Archives and the Photo Archives. The Institutional Archives consist of materials that preserve and record the papers of Museum staff, research associates, and administrators, and includes papers on the history of the Museum, its scientific expeditions and exhibitions. The Photo Archives contains over 250,000 images in the core areas of the Library's collection, and documents the history and architecture of the Museum, its exhibitions, staff and scientific collecting expeditions, as well. One of the treasures of the Photo Archives is a collection of original glass negatives made on the Henry Moorehead Expedition to Ohio to collect Hopewell material for the World's Fair. The negatives pre-date the World's Columbian Exposition of 1893 by two years.

The library provides numerous services essential to the research staff, students and volunteers of The Field Museum. Reference and inter-library loan services are available; in addition, staff requests may be made for acquisition of new materials for addition to the collections. There are nine different satellite Library locations throughout the Museum. Library staff is responsible for maintaining all circulation and conservation activities in these sites.



New Public Gallery for Exhibition of Books, Documents, and Art

The Museum's new T. Kimball and Nancy N. Brooker Gallery (located at the northeast corner of the upper-level mezzanine) showcases exhibitions of books, documents, and art. Currently, the special exhibition *From Prairie to Field* is on display there through July 27. The exhibition features photographs by Terry Evans, a nationally recognized photographer. Future exhibitions in the gallery will feature items from the Library's collections. **ITF**

THE MARIE LOUISE ROSENTHAL LIBRARY IS AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY 11AM–4PM. VISITORS ARE ENCOURAGED TO CONTACT THE REFERENCE LIBRARIAN VIA EMAIL (HARLOW@FIELDMUSEUM.ORG) OR VIA PHONE (312.665.7887) BEFORE VISITING THE LIBRARY.

Founders' Council and Annual Fund Update

Thank you to all of our Annual Fund, Founders' Council, and Chairman's Circle members for your involvement and commitment to The Field Museum. Each year your contributions help us educate, research, conserve, and explore—we couldn't do all that we do without you. Summer can be busy time in Chicago, but The Field Museum has many wonderful exhibitions in the months to come that you won't want to miss! Need activities for your out-of-town guests? Take them to the Field to see our special *Mythic Creatures: Dragons, Unicorns & Mermaids* exhibition, the *DNA Discovery Center*, *Evolving Planet* and more. We hope to see you often and are here to help you plan your visit.

Your involvement and support is very much appreciated; we want you to enjoy your museum and all that it offers. Remember that each giving level provides many special benefits, and your increased support will give you even more behind-the-scenes opportunities and unique events with our scientists. For more information on becoming a member of The Founders' Council or the Annual Fund, please call Michelle Harryman at 312.665.7714 or email annualfund@fieldmuseum.org.

Field Museum Membership Card: Your Ticket to Over 200 Other Museums!

Traveling this summer? Here's a cost-cutting tip: As a Field Museum member, you receive free or discounted general admission to more than 200 museums nationwide (does not apply to museums within 90 miles of The Field Museum.) This special reciprocity makes your Field membership even more valuable!

For information on all participating museums and to download the full list, please go to www.fieldmuseum.org/membership/members_faq.htm.

When planning your visit to a participating museum, it's always a good idea to call ahead to double check information on hours, parking, etc. And of course, remember to take your Field Museum membership card with you.

Enjoy your summer!

Field memberships make great gifts!

Call 312.665.7700 • M-F 8:30am–4:30pm



Above: The dragon plays an important role in the cultures of Asia, Europe, and the Americas (top). A mythic creature that gained popularity within recent years, Chupacabra, means "goat sucker" in Spanish (bottom). *Mythic Creatures: Dragons, Unicorns & Mermaids* runs through Sept. 1.

Mark Your Calendars for The Aztec World, An Exclusive Exhibition Coming October 31

This fall, The Field Museum will open an exclusive exhibition that explores the otherworldly grandeur and sophistication of one of history's great civilizations. *The Aztec World* (Oct. 31 through April 19, 2009) blends art history and anthropology and features nearly 300 artifacts including monumental works in stone, stunning ceramics, rare artifacts in wood, and intricate gold jewelry. These treasures include some never-before-seen or on view for the first time outside Mexico. The artifacts come from Mexico City's National Museum of Anthropology, the Templo Mayor Museum, The Field Museum, and other collections from premier museums in the United States and Mexico.

Member Preview Oct. 28

The Aztec World is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity—it will be shown only at The Field Museum. Starting on Sept. 16, members may visit www.fieldmuseum.org/membership or call 312.665.7705 to RSVP and reserve their complimentary tickets. The Members' Preview for *The Aztec World* will be held on Tuesday, Oct. 28 from 3pm to 10pm.

MORE Complimentary Tickets Available to Members!

- A Family Plus membership entitles you to **six** free or discounted tickets per temporary exhibition.
- A Family membership entitles you to **five** free or discounted tickets per temporary exhibition.
- An Individual, Student, Senior, or National Affiliate membership entitles you to **three** free or discounted tickets per temporary exhibition.

The Aztec World is organized by The Field Museum in collaboration with the CONACULTA (INAH). Major Sponsor: Exelon Corporation.



This life-size ceramic eagle man is featured in The Aztec World.

© Michel Zabé / AZA. Reproduction authorized by the Instituto Nacional de Antropología e Historia

Shop for Unique Gifts that Reflect Nature's Power and Beauty

Look for the brand new Nature Unleashed Store opening on May 23 and located directly behind the exhibition hall. Expand your understanding of natural forces from earthquakes to tornadoes, get inside natural disasters and discover how nature's forces shape our planet. We offer books, games, gifts, and gadgets for the whole family—from kites to emergency kits.

Also stop by the Main Store to discover what new treasures have been found on our recent buying trip to New Mexico. You'll find new Navajo turquoise jewelry, Hopi kachinas, and Zuni fetishes plus a few surprises.

- Remember that all Field Museum members receive 10 percent off their purchases in the Museum Stores.
- Shop online 24 hours a day at www.fieldmuseum.org.

The beauty of water inspired the design of this glass bowl.



LINDSAY KREMENAK

**The Field
Museum**
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